Application No. 09/610,630   .   3

IN THE CLAIMS

1   Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for use in a policy-based management

2   system for a computer network having one or more network resources comprising the

3   steps of:

4   enabling a system administrator to specify predefined service level goals for said

5   computer network;

6   selecting specifying a prescribed quality of service goal for a prescribed client and

7   prescribed service;

8   executing policy logic to automatically enforce said specified quality of service

9   goal;

10   determining a delivered quality of service for said selected specified quality of

11   service goal being executed, said determining a delivered quality of service including

12   continuously monitoring states of said computer network resources assigned to said

13   prescribed client and said service;

14   determining if said delivered quality of service is different than said selected

15   specified quality of service goal; and

16   if so, executing prescribed actions regarding network resources assigned to said

17   client for said prescribed service, wherein said actions are intended to adjust said

18   delivered quality of service toward being equal to said selected specified quality of

19   service goal,

20   wherein said system administrator does not have to specify said prescribed actions

21   intended to enforce said specified quality of service goal.

Claims 2, 3 and 4 canceled.

1   Claim 5 (currently amended): The method as defined in claim 3 1 wherein said

2   step of determining if said delivered quality of service is different includes a step of

3   determining if said delivered quality of service exceeds said selected specified quality of

4   service goal and, if so, said step of executing includes steps of determining and executing

5   a set of actions to reduce said computer network resources assigned to said prescribed

6   client and said prescribed service of said selected specified quality of service goal.

1   Claim 6 (original): The method as defined in claim 5 further including a step of

2   reporting to said system administrator said set of actions.

Application No. 09/610,630   .   4

1   Claim 7 (original): The method as defined in claim 5 further including a step of
2   reporting to said system administrator results of executing said actions.

1   Claim 8 (currently amended): The method as defined in claim ~~3~~ 1 wherein said
2   step of ~~determining~~ executing policy logic to determine if said delivered quality of
3   service is different includes a step of determining if said delivered quality of service is
4   worse than said ~~selected~~ specified quality of service goal and, if so, said step of executing
5   prescribed actions includes steps of determining and executing a set of actions to increase
6   network resources assigned to said prescribed client and said prescribed service of said
7   ~~selected~~ specified quality of service goal.

1   Claim 9 (original): The method as defined in claim 8 further including a step of
2   reporting to said system administrator said set of actions.

1   Claim 10 (original): The method as defined in claim 9 further including a step of
2   reporting to said system administrator results of executing said actions.

1   Claim 11 (currently amended): The method as defined in claim 1 further including
2   the steps of storing said ~~selected~~ specified quality of service goals and determining
3   whether said stored quality of service goals should be updated.

1   Claim 12 (original): The method as defined in claim 11 further including a step of
2   updating said stored quality of service goals.

1   Claim 13 (original): The method as defined in claim 12 wherein each of said
2   quality of service goals is a service level quality of service goal.

1   Claim 14 (original): The method as defined in claim 13 wherein said step of
2   updating includes steps of adding a service level quality of service goal to said stored
3   quality of service goals, redefining a stored service level quality of service goal or
4   removing a stored service level quality of service goal.

1   Claim 15 (original): The method as defined in claim 1 further including steps of
2   monitoring a state of each network resource in a set of network resources and storing said
3   monitored states.

1   Claim 16 (original): The method as defined in claim 15 further including a step of
2   updating said monitored state of each network resource in said set of said network
3   resources.

Application No. 09/610,630 5

Claim 17 (original): The method as defined in claim 16 wherein said step of updating includes steps of requesting an update of said state of each network resource in said set of network resources, querying said state of each network resource in said set of network resources and storing said updated state.

Claim 18 (original): The method as defined in claim 15 wherein said step of monitoring further includes steps of receiving a network event notification indicating a change in state of a network resource and storing said indicated change of state of said network resource as an update of the state of said network resource.

Claim 19 (currently amended): The method as defined in claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

storing a said set of service level quality of service goals;

storing said monitored states of a set of network resources;

wherein said step of selecting specifying a prescribed quality of service goal includes selecting said prescribed defined quality of service goal from said stored service level quality of service goals for a prescribed client and prescribed service; and

wherein said step of determining a delivered quality of service includes a step of using said stored monitored states to determine a delivered quality of service for said selected specified quality of service goal.

Claim 20 (currently amended): The method as defined in claim 19 wherein said step of determining if said delivered quality of service is different includes a step of determining if said delivered quality of service exceeds said selected specified quality of service goal and, if so, said step of executing includes steps of determining and executing a set of actions to reduce network resources assigned to said prescribed client and said prescribed service of said selected specified quality of service goal.

Claim 21 (original): The method as defined in claim 20 further including a step of reporting to said system administrator said set of actions.

Claim 22 (original): The method as defined in claim 21 further including a step of reporting to said system administrator results of executing said actions.

Claim 23 (currently amended): The method as defined in claim 19 wherein said step of determining if said delivered quality of service is different includes a step of determining if said delivered quality of service is worse than said selected specified

Application No. 09/610,630   6

4   quality of service goal and, if so, said step of executing includes steps of determining and

5   executing a set of actions to increase network resources assigned to said <u>prescribed</u> client

6   and said <u>prescribed</u> service of said ~~selected~~ <u>specified</u> quality of service goal.

1   Claim 24 (original): The method as defined in claim 23 further including a step of

2   reporting to said system administrator said set of actions.

1   Claim 25 (original): The method as defined in claim 24 further including a step of

2   reporting to said system administrator results of executing said actions.

1   Claim 26 (currently amended): Apparatus for use in a policy-based management

2   system <u>for a computer network having one or more network resources</u> comprising:

3   <u>means for enabling a system administrator to specify predefined service level</u>

4   <u>goals for said computer network;</u>

5   means for ~~selecting~~ <u>specifying</u> a prescribed quality of service goal for a prescribed

6   client and prescribed service;

7   <u>means for executing policy logic to automatically enforce said specified quality of</u>

8   <u>service goal;</u>

9   means for determining a delivered quality of service for said ~~selected~~ <u>specified</u>

10   quality of service goal<u>, including means for continuously monitoring states of said</u>

11   <u>computer network resources assigned to said prescribe client and said prescribed service;</u>

12   means for determining if said delivered quality of service is different than said

13   ~~selected~~ <u>specified</u> quality of service goal; and

14   means, responsive to said delivered quality of service being different, for

15   executing prescribed actions regarding network resources assigned to said client for said

16   <u>prescribed</u> service, wherein said actions are intended to adjust said delivered quality of

17   service toward being equal to said ~~selected~~ <u>specified</u> quality of service goal<u>,</u>

18   <u>wherein said system administrator does not have to specify said prescribed actions</u>

19   <u>intended to enforce said specified quality of service goal</u>.

Claims 27, 28 and 29 canceled.

1   Claim 30 (currently amended): The apparatus as defined in claim ~~28~~ <u>26</u> wherein

2   said means for determining if said delivered quality of service is different includes means

3   for determining if said delivered quality of service exceeds said ~~selected~~ <u>specified</u> quality

4   of service goal and means for determining and executing a set of actions to reduce <u>said</u>

Application No. 09/610,630   7

5   computer network resources assigned to said prescribed client and said prescribed service

6   of said seleeted sepcified quality of service goal.

1   Claim 31 (previously amended): The apparatus as defined in claim 30 further

2   including means for reporting to said system administrator said set of actions.

1   Claim 32 (previously amended): The apparatus as defined in claim 30 further

2   including means for reporting to said system administrator results of executing said

3   actions.

1   Claim 33 (currently amended): The apparatus as defined in claim 28 26 wherein

2   said means for determining if said delivered quality of service is different includes means

3   for determining if said delivered quality of service is worse than said selected specified

4   quality of service goal and means for determining and executing a set of actions to

5   increase said computer network resources assigned to said client and said service of said

6   selected specified quality of service goal.

1   Claim 34 (previously amended): The apparatus as defined in claim 33 further

2   including means for reporting to said system administrator said set of actions.

1   Claim 35 (previously amended): The apparatus as defined in claim 33 further

2   including means for reporting to said system administrator results of executing said

3   actions.

1   Claim 36 (currently amended): The apparatus as defined in claim 26 further

2   comprising:

3   means for storing a said set of service level quality of service goals;

4   means for storing said monitored states of a set of said computer network

5   resources;

6   wherein said means for seleeting specifying a prescribed quality of service goal

7   includes means for seleeting specifying said prescribed defined quality of service goal

8   from said stored service level quality of service goals for a prescribed client and

9   prescribed service; and

10   wherein said means for determining a delivered quality of service includes means

11   for using said stored monitored states to determine a delivered quality of service for said

12   selected specified quality of service goal.

Application No. 09/610,630   8

13   ~~wherein said means for selecting includes means for selecting said prescribed~~
14   ~~defined quality of service goal from said stored service level quality of service goals for a~~
15   ~~prescribed client and prescribed service; and~~
16   ~~wherein said means for determining includes means for using said stored~~
17   ~~monitored states to determine said delivered quality of service for said selected quality of~~
18   ~~service goal.~~

1   Claim 37 (currently amended): The apparatus as defined in claim 36 wherein said
2   means for determining if said delivered quality of service is different includes means for
3   determining if said delivered quality of service exceeds said ~~selected~~ specified quality of
4   service goal and means for determining and executing a set of actions to reduce network
5   resources assigned to said prescribed client and said prescribed service of said ~~selected~~
6   specified quality of service goal.

1   Claim 38 (previously amended): The apparatus as defined in claim 37 further
2   including a means for reporting to said system administrator said set of actions.

1   Claim 39 (previously amended): The apparatus as defined in claim 37 further
2   including means for reporting to said system administrator results of executing said
3   actions.

1   Claim 40 (currently amended): The apparatus as defined in claim 36 wherein said
2   means for determining if said delivered quality of service is different includes means for
3   determining if said delivered quality of service is worse than said ~~selected~~ specified
4   quality of service goal and means for determining and executing a set of actions to
5   increase network resources assigned to said prescribed client and said prescribed service
6   of said ~~selected~~ specified quality of service goal.

1   Claim 41 (previously amended): The apparatus as defined in claim 40 further
2   including means for reporting to said system administrator said set of actions.

1   Claim 42 (previously amended): The apparatus as defined in claim 40 further
2   including means for reporting to said system administrator results of executing said
3   actions.